

ORDINANCE NO. 026-78

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY'S
INNOVATION STUDIO PROGRAM
OVERVIEW AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, The Chicago Transit Authority's ("Authority") Planning and Innovation Department ("Department") seeks to solve some of the Authority's biggest challenges by piloting innovative tools, processes, and partnerships through the Innovation Studio Program (the "Innovation Studio"); and

WHEREAS, The Innovation Studio enables the Department to establish a dedicated and expedited avenue to develop innovative pilots, prototypes, and/or proof of concepts ("POCs") in partnership with private industry, nonprofits, or other appropriate organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Innovation Studio has an established process outside of the Authority's formal procurement process for the Department to engage vendors to participate in the piloting of technologies and tools in real-world scenarios; and

WHEREAS, On December 13, 2023, the Authority adopted Ordinance No. 023-146, establishing the Innovation Studio Program and the CTA Innovation Studio Overview and Procedures; and

WHEREAS, The Innovation Studio now seeks to pilot innovative partnerships and contract staff deployment opportunities to address real-world challenges that require engagement and support beyond technology and existing tools; and

WHEREAS, Successful pilots of all kinds can transition to long-term solutions through the formal procurement process; and

WHEREAS, If the Department determines that awarding funding to a selected vendor, including to fund direct staff resources, is appropriate, the Department will seek Board approval prior to agreeing to pay such amounts; and

WHEREAS, The Department recommends the CTA Innovation Studio Overview and Procedures be amended to expand the purpose and function of the Innovation Studio Program to better meet the challenges facing the Authority; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHICAGO TRANSIT
BOARD OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY:

SECTION 1. The Chicago Transit Board hereby adopts the amended policies and procedures for selecting and implementing such pilots as outlined in the CTA innovation Studio Overview and Procedures attached as Exhibit A hereto, as may be amended from time to time.

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SECTION 2. The President or Acting President of the Authority, or her designee, is authorized to enter into professional service agreements with selected vendors where no funding is awarded but shall seek Board approval prior to entering into any agreements which provide for payment, including seeking funding for contract staff resources.

SECTION 3. The President or Acting President of the Authority, or her designee, after consulting with the Authority's General Counsel or Acting General Counsel, or her designee, is further authorized to modify the CTA Innovation Studio Overview and Procedures contained in Exhibit A hereto from time to time. Any substantive changes to Exhibit A shall be reported to the Board prior to the next public Board meeting.

SECTION 4. The President or Acting President of the Authority and the Chairman of the Board, or their designees, are further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to implement the objectives of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

APPROVED:

PASSED:

Chairman

July 8, 2026

Secretary

July 8, 2026